

Please amend claims 4 and 8 as follows:

4. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- A¹ M^b B¹
- (a) a nucleotide sequence that encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (b) a nucleotide sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO:1; and
 - (c) a nucleotide sequence that is completely complementary to a nucleotide sequence of (a)-(b).

A₂ M^b B₂

8. (Amended) A nucleic acid vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 4.

Please add the following new claims 24-28:

M B3
-- 24. A process for producing a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 9 under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide, and recovering said polypeptide.

S 26. An isolated polynucleotide consisting of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

A3
3 26. The vector of claim *8*, wherein said vector is selected from the group consisting of a plasmid, a virus, and a bacteriophage.

4 27. The vector of claim *8*, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is inserted into said vector in proper orientation and correct reading frame such that a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:2 may be expressed by a cell transformed with said vector.

5 28. The vector of claim *27*, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is operatively linked to a promoter sequence. --